Illegal Sale of Medicines

†2667. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards the availability of medicines and their compounds being sold in the market without prior permission of the Drug Controller General of India; and

(b) if so, the names of these medicines/compounds and the action being taken by Government against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act & Rules made there under licenses for manufacture of drugs are granted by the State Licensing Authorities (SLA) and the same can be marketed throughout the country. However, there have been instances in past where SLA gave licenses to Proprietary medicines/New drugs without DCG (I)'s approval under Rule-122-B. Such licenses were immediately cancelled. To restrict SLA granting such licenses, Drugs & Consmetics Rules 69, 71, 75 & 76 were amended as per Gazatte Notification No. 311 (E) dated 1.5.2000.

Migration of Health Workers to Foreign Nations

2668. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indian health care workers are migrating to richer nations, as per a new UN report;

(b) what is the rough estimate of health care workers who have migrated during the last five years to the developed countries;

(c) whether coupled with resurgence of infectious diseases i.e. HIV/AIDS, high rate of infant/maternal mortality rate, etc in our country, the migration will exacerbate an already acute shortage of healthcare system in our country; and

(d) if so, what is the action plan of Government to address this issue?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) There is no mention of migration of health care workers with spefific regard to India in the article entitled "Migration of health-care workers from developing countries: strategic approaches to its management" appearing in the Bulletin of World Health Organization, August 2004, 82(8) issue.

According to the information available there is no shortage of trained nurses in the country. So far 8.65 lakh nurses have been registered with various State Nursing Councils in India. As per an estimate, about 3,000 to 35,000 Nurses qualify every year. At the same time, Government has taken several steps to further augment the availability of trained nurses. These steps include upgradation of Schools and Colleges of Nursing, establishment of New Nursing Colleges, financial assistance to strengthen Schools and Colleges of Nursing, organizing continuing education programme for nursing personnel to upgrade their knowledge and skills etc. As per the recommendations of High Power Committee, State Governments were requested to improve the working conditions of the Nursing Personnel.

Achievement of target of the Health Care Policy

2669. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the people in rural areas are yet to get modern medicine and health care despite the progress of India on health front;

(b) the target set by the National Health Policy for different years and why the target and achievement of his Ministry is nowhere near the target of National Health Care Policy; and

(c) whether with its knowledge base and growth potential, India is capable of much higher levels of achievement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The National